

NJPAC

New Jersey PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

PRESENTS

THE HARD HAT CONCERT



SATURDAY

AUGUST 16, 1997 • 8 P.M.

"Nothing ever built arose to touch the skies unless
some dreamed that it should, some believed that it
could, and some willed that it must."

--- Charles F. Kettering
American Electrical Engineer and Inventor
(1876-1958)

"...And hundreds of the best, hardest working, and
most dedicated professionals came along and did the
really hard work!"

--- Gail L. Thompson
V.P., Design and Construction
New Jersey Performing Arts Center

To All My Colleagues on the NJPAC Design and Construction Teams:

It's been quite a ride. Wouldn't you agree?

Ten years in the planning, four years in construction, 63 days away from Opening Night, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center is almost ready to meet its public. And that, quite simply, is because of you.

As I reflect on the last several years, I am filled with incredible memories and an extraordinary sense of pride. Each of you has worked on a project that most thought would never be built. And each and every day, through you, hard work and dedication, you proved the nay-sayers wrong.

All of you have worked on other jobs which brought you satisfaction upon completion, but I hope as you look back on your experience building the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, you will recall with fondness being part of something that will live on for generations. Each note played, each dance step performed, and each wide-eyed child thrilled by the magic of theater will be the direct result of your labor -- beginning on October 18th and continuing thereafter to delight your children, your grandchildren, and their grandchildren.

So tonight, we celebrate you -- your extraordinary achievement and dedication. Each of you is at the heart of this building. It is quite fitting that the first concert in Prudential Hall is staged in your honor. You've earned it.

Sit back and enjoy -- and on behalf of all who will follow you in these seats well into the next century, thank you for a job well done.

Sincerely,



Gail L. Thompson
Vice President, Design and Construction

YOU HAVE BUILT IT -- THEY WILL COME

NJPAC

New Jersey PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

PRESENTS

THE HARD HAT CONCERT



featuring

Southside Johnny

Felix Cavaliere

with The Max Weinberg Seven

Special Guest

Ronnie Spector

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Metropolitan Entertainment Group -- especially John Scher, Debra Rathwell, Rob Brenner and Donna Marchetti --
for their assistance in producing this evening's event.

The photographing or sound recording of any performance or the possession of any device for such photographing
or sound recording inside the theater, without the written permission of the management, is prohibited by law.

The Performers:

- ▶ **Felix Cavaliere** was the driving force behind the classic American pop group, the Rascals, and the vocalist on pop classics like *Groovin'*, *A Girl Like You*, *Good Lovin'*, *It's a Beautiful Morning*, *People Got to Be Free*, and *How Can I Be Sure*. Soon after the Rascals first hit the charts in 1965, they became the first American group to cross the pop and rhythm-and-blues charts. Currently a writer and producer, Cavaliere recently toured with the Ringo Starr All-Star Band and just completed a new album with Don Was, the Grammy Award-winning producer for Bonnie Raitt and the Rolling Stones.
- ▶ **Southside Johnny Lyon**, a self-proclaimed "Jersey boy," is known for his powerful vocals and eclectic musical stylings. During his career, he has mastered a wide variety of musical forms ranging from rock and blues to reggae and country-western. Among his landmark albums are *Hearts of Stone*, *Reach Up and Touch the Sky*, *Love is a Sacrifice*, *In The Heat*, and *Trash It Up!* He also acted as technical advisor on the film, *Eddie and the Cruisers*.
- ▶ **Ronnie Spector**, the original "bad girl of rock and roll," began her legendary recording career at the age of 13 and went on to lead the Ronettes, the ultimate girl group of 1960's rock-and-roll. In addition to their smash, *Be My Baby*, the Ronettes created a long string of hits including *Walking in the Rain*, *Baby I Love You*, *The Best Part of Breaking Up*, and *I Can't Hear the Music*. The group is also well-known for its recordings of the holiday classics, *Frosty the Snowman*, *Sleigh Ride*, and *I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus*. Spector is the only American vocalist to have been backed by all four Beatles on her George Harrison-produced 1970 single, *Try Some, Buy Some*. In 1976, Billy Joel wrote *Say Goodbye to Hollywood*, a tribute to Spector which she recorded the following year. During the 1980's, Spector recorded a new album, *Unfinished Business*, and joined forces with Eddie Money on the Grammy-nominated duet, *Take Me Home Tonight*. On television, Spector has been featured on the Grammy Awards, the American Music Awards, *Merry Motown Christmas*, and *Legendary Ladies of Rock*. Her best-selling memoir, *Be My Baby: How I Survived Mascara, Miniskirts and Madness*, was published in 1990 by Crown Publishers.
- ▶ **Max Weinberg**, the legendary drummer for Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band, has been the music director for television's popular *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* since the show's premiere in 1993. Weinberg's band, The Max Weinberg Seven, was recently hailed as "the best band in late night television" by the *Washington Post*. He has toured throughout the country with his one-man show, *An Evening with Max Weinberg*, a multi-media work which documents his 25-year career. Called "the rhythmic backbone of the E Street band" by the *New York Times*, Weinberg has since performed at two Presidential Inauguration Galas, at the Grammy Awards, and at a Gala Concert for the dedication of the Rock-and-Roll Hall of Fame during which he was reunited with Springsteen and the E Street Band. Weinberg is the author of *The Big Beat: Conversations with Rock's Great Drummers*, a work for which he interviewed, among others, Ringo Starr and Charlie Watts.



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All of the volunteers -- greeters, ticket takers, ushers and retail associates --
who contributed to making tonight's event possible.

NJPAC

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